

**ACBL UNIT 508 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Minutes January 14, 2023**

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**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by president Arti Bhargava on Saturday, January 14, 2023, at 9 am. The meeting took place via Zoom.

**Present:** Tracey Bauer, Arti Bhargava, Shirley Ehrlich, Melanie Haddad, Judy Leedy, Steve Levinson, Ann Schweichler

**Absent:** Cindy Blum, Vince Mueller, Bob Thomson

1. **Minutes. MOTION** (Arti/ Steve): That the Minutes of the Unit 508 Board of Directors Meeting of December 9, 2022, be approved as distributed. Carried.
2. **Recap of Holiday Party.** The Holiday Party was very successful. Shirley was congratulated and thanked for her work in arranging the holiday party. Shirley has made notes for use in arranging future parties.
3. **President's Report.**
  - a. **Correspondent for D21 Diamond in the Ruff Unit report:** Tracey confirmed she will continue to write the Unit reports for the Diamond in the Ruff. Tracey asked Board members to send photos and content for the reports.
  - b. **Awards ceremony:** We need to hand out awards for three years 2020, 2021, and 2022. One possible date is March 26 before the Unit game. Ann will ensure there are no conflicts with this date. The matter will be revisited at the next Board meeting (February 17).
4. **Mentoring.** Tabled.
5. **Unit Coordinator.** The Unit games in January are on the 15th and 29th. We aim to hold Unit games on the second and fourth Sundays going forward. Ann will look at those dates to ensure there is no conflict with local sectionals or holidays and will obtain sanctions.
6. **2023 Unit Sectional.** Nothing to report.
7. **D21 Report.** The next D21 Board meeting is on January 25. Attendance at the Monterey Regional was significantly better than last year at about 57% of pre-Covid levels. All room guarantees were met. The District's Tournament Committee is investigating alternative venues to the DoubleTree for the Memorial Day Regional.
8. **Any Other Business.**
  - a. **Education:** No celebrity speaker programs will be pursued at this time due to concerns about attendance.
  - b. **Membership:** Shirley reported that she received several emails from a newer member/player saying that we needed a way for people to find appropriate partners. Shirley and Tracey will look into possible technical solutions for a partnership tool.

- c.** Membership: Steve reported that the Unit has received reimbursement from the ACBL for membership dues. The Unit's membership is decreasing and currently stands at 443 members.
- d.** Membership: The Board agreed it is important to find ways to increase the initiation of new bridge players into our duplicate games. Melanie/Tracey will talk to a teacher in Reno who has been successful in attracting new players. The discussion will be continued at the next meeting.
- e.** Membership Directory: Ann and Shirley will research how to present an online Membership directory and report back with recommendations in a few months.
- f.** Mentoring: Steve reported that Cindy has requested an additional \$500 for mentoring expenses. Cindy will be asked to report on the program and the program will be reviewed at the next meeting.
- g.** Shared Document Storage: A central repository for Unit documents, such as notes about the sectional, job descriptions, etc., will be addressed at the next meeting.

The next board meeting will take place in person on Friday, February 17, 2023, at 3:30 pm following play at Terra Linda. If Board members are unable to attend in person, they may attend via conference call.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Haddad  
Secretary